

August 1996

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THE BAHAMAS FOR HORSES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of both the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the animals to be exported. Additional information shall include:

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. A clear photograph from which an accurate identification of the horse can be made must accompany the horse. The photograph must be signed by the accredited veterinarian to certify that it is the animal being prepared for shipment.
2. The horse's registration papers showing transfer to the importer must accompany the horse.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States is a country free of foot-and-mouth disease, dourine, contagious equine metritis, and glanders.
2. During the 30 days prior to exportation, and to the best of the USDA-accredited veterinarian's knowledge and expertise, no cases of infectious or contagious diseases have occurred on the premises where the horse/s were.
3. The horse/s were been vaccinated against Venezuelan, Eastern and Western equine encephalitis at least 30 days prior to exportation.
4. The horse/s for export are healthy and are not known to be affected with Potomac Fever, Contagious Equine Metritis, Equine Rhinopneumonitis, equine viral arteritis (EVA), mange, and dermatophilosis.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

The animals were tested with negative results within 30 days prior to embarkation to the following diseases:

1. EIA: Agar gel immunodiffusion (Coggins) test.

2. Piroplasmosis: Complement fixation test; OR, if anticomplementary, the immunofluorescent antibody test.

EMBARKATION CERTIFICATION

At the port of embarkation, a VS port veterinarian shall attach to the U.S. Origin Health Certificate, the Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals (VS Form 17-37) showing:

1. The name and address of the consignor.
2. The name and address of the consignee.
3. The number and species of animals to be shipped.
4. A statement that the animals have been given a careful veterinary inspection at the port of embarkation and found free from evidence of communicable disease and exposure thereto within 24 hours of exportation.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. All animals must be completely free of ectoparasites. If any animal is found infested, the shipment will be refused entry.
2. The horse/s will receive a veterinary examination and approval upon arrival.
3. The Veterinary Services Division of the Department of Agriculture of the Bahamas must be notified at least 48 hours in advance of the expected date of arrival of the animals/s with all pertinent details including port of arrival, flight, date and expected time of arrival.